

Bond Issue and School Levy Letter for Parents

I want to take a moment to share some important information about our upcoming bond issue and school levy. The March issue is a combined bond issue and income tax. The bond issue is for 8.53 mills to build a new PreK-12 school building, new performing arts auditorium and athletic stadium

We have been cutting positions and services for the past 5 years and our entire staff; teachers, bus drivers, custodians, secretaries, administrators, etc., has agreed to a two year salary freeze in an effort to stretch taxpayer dollars. Additionally, it is important to know that the last time we had new tax money for general operations (the general fund) was the 5 year 6.81 mill Emergency Levy passed in November of 1998. This Emergency Levy was allowed to expire on January 1, 2004, at the same time that the 1% Income Tax began collections. In other words, one type of tax was eliminated and another replaced it. The school district did not receive any additional money because of this “swap” in types of taxes. We did have a 2 mill Permanent Improvement Replacement Levy in 2001, but that money cannot, by law, be used for general fund purposes.

Unfortunately, an additional mid-year \$195,000 cut from the State of Ohio in January 2012, and a new reduced funding formula, will now force us to cut more positions than anticipated including teachers and support positions. We will also need to increase student and sports fees. This financial cut was totally unexpected which means we were unable to budget for such a shortfall midyear.

Your support on March 6 will put our district on solid financial ground and assures our children’s educational future for years to come. Carlisle High School is rated Excellent by the Ohio Department of Education and we want to maintain the quality of education the children of Carlisle deserve.

This extremely important Election Day is on Tuesday, March 6. If you would like to find out more information on these issues, please visit www.carlisleindians.org or www.CarlisleSchoolsVoteYes.com or email citizensforcarliseschools@yahoo.com. Remember, this is our only chance to have the State of Ohio pay 52 % of the total cost of constructing our new pre-K – 12 building for the children of Carlisle. Our future is truly now! Thank you for your support over the years.

Sincerely,
Leann Thacker
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